

UNIVERSITY CITY...more than just a neighborhood!

University City

NEWS

UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG

APRIL 2021



UC Parents March for In-Person Schooling

The following was reported by KUSI News about the Back to School marches held at UC area public schools on March 15:

San Diego families continue to fight to get their kids back in the classroom. One parent held a sign that read, "Children's Lives Matter," and many of the students signs emphasized the lack of success "Zoom School" has brought to their education experience. When asked about distance learning, a young student said, "Zoom School is Doom School."

Despite the growing frustration with the ongoing school closure, San Diego Unified School District has plans to partially re-open classrooms on April 12, if their conditions are met. Many other districts in San Diego County have already resumed in-person classes, but San Diego Unified won't reopen until their teachers and staff have received the vaccine.

One of the rally organizers, Julie Dennis (pictured above), explained that she believes the superintendent is telling parents they will reopen schools to force them to stay quiet. Dennis explained, "that is not what the contract says. That is what the Superintendent wrote to all of these people trying to get them to be quiet, but we will not be quiet. The contract says, un-understandable things. It does not make sense, it is complicated, and it does not advocate for our children. It does not provide them the education, five days a week, on campus."

KUSI's Elizabeth Alvarez was at the "March Back to School" event in University City where she spoke with some of the parents and young students who simply want to return to school.

Protesters in Front of Standley Middle School During Back to School Rally

Photos Courtesy Barry Bernstein



Parents of @SDSchools students say the district and the unions are negotiating to benefit themselves, not the kids. One parent, Julie Dennis, said "Enough is enough, we need an appropriate education for our kids at school."



UNIVERSITY CITY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Published by **University City Community Association**
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Editor Jemma Samala, UCCAeditor@gmail.com

Advertising Terri Day, uccaADS@hotmail.com

Be the Eyes and Ears of UC: The University City Community Association Newsletter is comprised of information sent to the editor. The association does not have reporters, photographers or staff. You are welcome to write and submit articles and story suggestions that pertain to community and residents.

Guidelines:

- Your article should be approximately 250 words or less, sent in a Word document and attached to an email.
- Include who, what, why, where, and how.
- Be as brief and concise as possible. Editing may result in errors.
- DO NOT send articles in a pdf formats.
- UCCA does not guarantee publication.
- Submitted materials may be published on the Internet.
- The Editor reserves the right to edit articles as needed.
- Articles or ads considered to be political will not be accepted.
- Attach photos separately in a picture format at high resolution or straight from camera as a jpeg or png.
- Send to UCCAeditor@gmail.com or jemmasamala@gmail.com.

Deadline for the May issue: APRIL 15, 2021

Please send your submission as early as possible. The deadline for the May issue is April 15, 2021, but the newsletter can fill up before the deadline. Articles and news items are reviewed as they are received. Priority may be given to UCCA members and time sensitive material. Articles may also be edited for allowed space. UCCA does not discriminate against nor endorse all information in the monthly newsletter. The UCCA Newsletter receives information and advertising from a variety of sources. UCCA cannot and does not guarantee the accuracy of the information or the complete absence of errors and/or omissions, nor does UCCA assume responsibility for the same. Publication does not constitute an endorsement.

2021 UCCA Board Members

Executive Board

President: Barry Bernstein, apdrfn@aol.com, 858.453.3713
Vice-President: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com
Secretary: Jim Beshears, jwblaw@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: Don Hotz, don.hotz@yahoo.com

Appointed Positions

Beautification Chair/UCCF Liaison: Merle Langston, merlelangston1@gmail.com, and Barbara Gellman, Co-Chair, bggellman@yahoo.com
CASA Liaison/Publicity & Promotion/Webmaster: Diane Ahern, ahern.diane@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary & Historian: OPEN
*Christmas Tree/Menorah Lighting Coordinator: Darlene Ventimiglia, darleneven2@gmail.com
Membership: Hallie Burch, UCCAmembership@gmail.com
Neighborhood Watch: Barbara Gellman, bggellman@yahoo.com
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*Newsletter Editor: Jemma Samala, UCCAeditor@gmail.com
Parliamentarian/SD Network of Town Coalitions: Mack Langston, langstonmack@gmail.com
Special Events: Barbara Henshaw, barbarahenshaw@gmail.com
*UCPG CPUS Liaison: Katie Rodolico, ktnelson@yahoo.com
UCSD Liaison: Deanna Ratnikova, deanna.ratnikova@gmail.com
*Non-Voting Member

UCCA Meeting Synopsis March 10, via Zoom

by Jim Beshears, Secretary



SCHEDULED GUESTS

Sabrina Bazzo, San Diego Board of Education reported: Lamont Jackson is the new interim superintendent pending selecting a permanent superintendent. City schools will open for in class instruction April 12, 2021. Some students may stay virtual if they desire but 75% are expected to come back. There will be differences between elementary, middle, and high schools but details are being worked out. Summer school sessions are also being planned.

COMMUNITY AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

Melissa Martin, UC Library Manager, reported the City library system was working on a new master plan. It is seeking input from the public.

Officer M. Bognuda, SDPD, reported a person was seen by neighbors removing a package on the front porch of a house in UC. SDPD was able to locate and arrest the suspect for narcotics and paraphernalia.

Jessica Brown, Congressman Scott Peters aide, reported: Congressman Peters sent a letter to the general in charge of Miramar MCAS requesting compliance with flight rules; the American Rescue Plan was approved which will provide for \$1,400 payments to qualifying parties, the child tax credit was expanded, and federal unemployment was extended to 8-31-21, among other provisions.

Ron Belanger, of CASA, reported the traffic controllers at the FAA were not strictly following the flight plans for Miramar MCAS. Pilots coming in from other bases do not know the rules on flight plans, but actions are being taken to educate them.

Kaitlyn Willoughby, legislative aide to Joe LaCava, reported he met with Scott Peters office and Mayor Gloria's office regarding the flight plan issues. She also reported the construction of an alternative dwelling unit on a property across from Standley Park was following City height and building regulations.

Spencer Katz, legislative aide to Supervisor Tarra Remer-Lawson, reported the County opened a \$100 million fund for rental assistance for County (but not City) residents and applications are being received. The program includes landlord's relief. A "Job Corps" for low-income youth was established. The County will stop charging inmates for phone calls. A mobile response team for mental health crisis is being established.

Alyssa Helper, a community rep for UCSD, reported Covid-19 testing has increased by 98%, the RMAC building is open for vaccinations, and the Ridge Rock Project building pedestrian pathways is in Phase 2.

Chris Nielsen of UCPG, reported that it opposes the project by UCSD to build a 7-story building on a lot on La Jolla Village Dr. formerly occupied by the Rock Bottom Restaurant as it is zoned for a two-story building. The UCPG supports the 1 Alexandria Square project at No. Torrey Pines and Service Park Rd.

Barbara Gellman of Neighborhood Watch said people can report possible crimes and be anonymous. At the Captain's Advisory Board meeting, it was reported that PB, MB and La Jolla police precincts have been busy with illegal fires on the beach and heavy traffic.

Mack Langston reported the City was still working on regulations and enforcement for STVR's.

Katie Rodolico of the CPUS reported they were examining major thoroughfares for access by business, bikes, and pedestrians. Construction begins for Pure Water this summer which will cause closing of lanes on Genesee. Construction for Costa Verde will start later this year.

Merle Langston reported there will be a cleanup of the weeds on the medians in April and May.

The next meeting will be held on April 14, 2021 via zoom at 6:00pm, meeting ID#819 4409 7621. CA Assemblyman Chris Ward will be our guest and will be discussing the ADU (granny Flats) regulations.



UCCA President Barry Bernstein

April is here, (and a Happy Easter to all), and along with its predicted Spring showers, this month may bring San Diego County to a less restrictive COVID tier than our current red which now allows for modified, safe school openings for all of our children. With all adults having access to vaccinations by May 1 we seem to be on track to finally winning this nightmarish pandemic battle.

However the UK variant, as of this writing and the "findings" of recently published studies, is said to be not only more easily transmitted, but also having as much if not more serious consequences than the original COVID 19! So for your protection and that of others, please **CONTINUE WEARING MASKS WHEN YOU ARE IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH OTHERS AND MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING**. We're not out of the woods quite yet!

Padre baseball at Petco Park, restaurants, movie theaters have opened their doors with COVID attendance restrictions. A 2021 NCAA March Madness basketball champion was crowned. I am guessing it was Gonzaga since my column must be ready for the printers before the championship is decided.

Good news...the Summer Concert series at Standley Park is something we can hopefully plan to enjoy starting in July, (with restrictions), and I may even consider resuming my efforts playing senior softball this month! No San Diego County Fair...but Del Mar Race Track is planning a modified attendance opening in July (with regulated attendance and modified events). Legoland and Sea World are also making plans for regular attendance, (with masks) this coming summer. Lots of fun things to look forward to in the coming months.

City and County officials are eagerly awaiting their allotment of the recently approved a \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan. Let's hope the disbursement of those funds goes more smoothly than the vaccine distribution, and that the needed oversight will prevent any fraudulent misuse of these funds. **REMINDER**, the State and Federal tax filing date has been extended to May 17 this year.

Thank you to Sabrina Bazzo, our City School's Board of Education trustee, for her participation in our March UCCA ZOOM meeting. Our regular UCCA monthly meetings will continue to be held via ZOOM. Hopefully these ZOOM UCCA meetings will be a thing of the past and we will be able to reconvene in the friendly confines of our community library. Our next meeting, April 14, will feature former San Diego City Councilman, and now California Assemblymember, Chris Ward. Enjoy the anticipated warmer weather, the smell of Spring flowers, and the **OPTIMISM** of this season...

Stay safe, stay well. Remember, University City is "more than just a neighborhood" - **JOIN UCCA ~Barry**

**It is with great sadness that I report the recent death of Jim Charvat, predeceased by his wife Ginny, who was a UCCA Board member for many years. The Charvat's lived in UC since 1962. Jim co-founded UC Little League. He was proud of its staying power and its positive effect it had on the community over the years.*

Answers to the "So You Think You Know UC - Part 3" Quiz on page 9: 1b, 2c, 3b, 4a, 5b, 6b, 7c, 8a, 9b, 10c, bonus question: Village Nurseries

VIRTUAL UCCA MEETING – MARCH 10

The next UCCA meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, March 10, starting at 6:00pm – the regular monthly meeting time.

Since libraries are still closed, the meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

To participate, join at us02web.zoom.us/j/81944097621

You may also go to zoom.com, and join meeting ID: 819 4409 7621

And you can also call in at: 408.638.0968, 81944097621#

calendar

APRIL FOOLS DAY

Thursday, April 1

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 4 - 10

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 4

PASSOVER ENDS

Sundown, Sunday, April 4

NATIONAL WALKING DAY

Wednesday, April 7

PEOPLE FOR A CLEAN UC

Sunday, April 11

7:30-9:00am

Cleanup volunteers meet at Starbucks
3202 Governor Drive, supplies provided

UC COMMUNITY PLAN COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 13

5:30 – 7:30pm

Agendas and meeting info: planuniversity.org

UCCA MEETING

Wednesday, April 14, 6:00pm

Zoom.us, meeting ID#819 4409 7621

COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, April 20

5:30 – 7:30pm

Agendas and meeting info: planuniversity.org

EARTH DAY

Thursday, April 22

UNIVERSITY CITY PARKS COUNCIL STANDLEY PARK COMMUNITY REC GROUP

Thursday, April 22

Contact Rec Center for meeting info:
858.552.1652

ARBOR DAY

Friday, April 30

DON'T FORGET!

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR UCCA MEMBERSHIP
GO TO PAGE 13 AND SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP
FORM TODAY, OR GO TO
UNIVERSITYCITYNEWS.ORG**



**The Following Tips
are Provided by the
San Diego Police
Department's Elder
Abuse Unit**



**Get it Done San Diego —
not just for potholes**

by Darrell Reich

Identity Theft Warning Signs:

- ✓ Your Purse or wallet was stolen.
- ✓ Your bank account is overdrawn or there is unusual activity on your account.
- ✓ Your credit card is over its limit or there is unusual activity on your account.
- ✓ Your monthly bank/credit statements do not arrive.
- ✓ Bills you have paid still show due.
- ✓ You are denied credit or a loan you have applied for.

Preventive Steps:

- Reduce the items you carry in public such as extra credit cards, Social Security card, and checkbooks. Consider carrying a photocopy of your Medicare card with all but the last four digits blacked out.
- Shred into small pieces, not strips, all mail and documents which contain bank/credit information, Social Security number, your name, and address.
- Do not leave mail with bills to be paid attached to your mail box. Make sure they are deposited in a U.S. Mail bin, the Post Office is the best.
- Ask for new/replacement checkbooks to be mailed to your bank for pickup rather than delivered to your residence.

Telemarketing Fraud Warning Signs:

- ✓ You must pay money up front for taxes or fees to participate.
- ✓ You must pay with a "Green Dot" card.
- ✓ You must make an immediate decision, before the calls ends, or the offer will be rescinded.
- ✓ You are called more frequently by a multiplying variety of telemarketing solicitors.

Preventive Steps:

- It is not rude to interrupt a caller or hang up on them.
- Use an answering machine to screen your calls.
- Use Caller-ID to identify who is calling you before you answer.
- Never, under any circumstance, give any portion of your credit card number, bank account number, or Social Security number to a caller.
- Sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry for both your home and cell phones. The National Do Not Call Registry 888.382.1222 or www.donotcall.gov

I hate to be a kicker
I always long for peace
But the wheel that squeaks the loudest
Is the one that gets the grease

Search for "San Diego" in your smartphone App Store or use link below to report problems in the neighborhood. You'll see me walking along Governor wearing my hat taking photos especially in the cross walks. The list of reports includes:

Graffiti
Pothole
Street light on during day
Street light out
Traffic signal out
Light flashing red
Traffic light out
Traffic signal facing wrong direction
Traffic signal timing
Walk signal push button upgrade
Trash containers left out
Dumpster Encroachment
Missed collection
Curb damage
Damaged Guardrail
Faded striping
Sidewalk damage
Street sweeping
Traffic sign
Tree maintenance
Storm water illegal discharge
Storm drain
Street flooded
Over irrigation
COVID-19
Dead animal
Encampment
Illegal Dumping
Parking issue
Scooter issue
Other

www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done

Meanwhile, click on "Info Map" and enter your address at the link below. Stadium next to Spreckels Elementary School is in the plan for "soon". Previous utility pole undergrounding was behind the Catholic Church in South-West UC.

www.sandiego.gov/undergrounding

Latest Construction for the Mid-Coast Trolley



SANDAG **shift**
a change in direction

Shift San Diego

District 1 – Construction Recap and Upcoming Activities

The Shift program is dedicated to providing up-to-date information on major projects throughout the University City and La Jolla neighborhoods. Below is a summary of upcoming construction activities, intended for the City of San Diego's District 1 Council office and subsequent stakeholders. Please note, construction schedules are subject to change. For more information, visit: ShiftSanDiego.com.

Mid-Coast Trolley Construction, SANDAG

Along Genesee Avenue and Executive Square
Closures of the Executive Square driveway were recently conducted from Thursday, March 18 through Monday, March 22. During the closures, crews demolished the roadway and poured concrete to replace a cross gutter. Concrete cross gutters are installed at the intersection of two roadways to help maintain drainage. In mid-April, portions of Genesee Avenue will be closed between Regents Road and Nobel Drive for paving and striping. For more information, visit KeepSanDiegoMoving.com.

Pure Water Project, City of San Diego

Pure Water San Diego is the City of San Diego's phased, multi-year program that will provide one-third of San Diego's water supply locally by the end of 2035. As part of these phases for construction, the North City Pure Water Facility project is anticipating beginning construction in early April. The Morena Northern Pipeline and Tunnels project is expecting to begin construction subsequently in May.

Theatre District Living and Learning Neighborhood, UC San Diego

UC San Diego's Theatre District Living and Learning Neighborhood began the first stages of construction in January and will include five buildings ranging in height from nine to 21 stories to provide approximately 2,000 new beds for undergraduate students, residential life and administration offices for a new college, general assignment classrooms, a 480-seat auditorium, meeting space, restaurants and retail space for approximately 900,000 gross square feet total.

Monthly Message from District 1 Councilmember Joe LaCava

Miramar Flights

As many of us are aware, irregular flight paths over University City have been an ongoing issue. My office, in conjunction with the Offices of Mayor Todd Gloria and Congressman Scott Peters, is in communication to address this issue with our federal partners. I have also been reaching out to our state representatives to join in the conversation.

I thank you for contacting our office and keeping us abreast of approved flight path diversions and aviation-related noise and safety concerns. This provides me the on-the-ground assessment that I need in my discussions. Further, I understand that there will be a new base commander come this summer. I look forward to continuing the conversation when the new command is in place.

Thank you also for your time and commitment. Volunteer activism is hard work and your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

Since taking office, I have received much input regarding ADUs. While most ADU regulations reflect the city's required implementation of State legislation, I am actively listening to your concerns.

The California State Legislature made several changes to California's ADU law to encourage their construction—a naturally occurring affordable housing source. State ADU law requires local jurisdictions to permit at least 1 detached ADU up to 1,200 square feet in size as well as requiring the city to relax zoning regulations.

For more information, please see the City's ADU regulations (SDMC Section 141.0302):

<https://docs.sandiego.gov/municode/MuniCodeChapter14/Ch14Ar01Division03.pdf>

District 1 Feedback Survey

I want to hear from you, District 1's residents and business owners, about how I may better serve you in the future. The survey is open March 1 through April 16, only takes about 5 minutes to complete, and can be found at <https://bit.ly/D1March21Feedback>.

Thank you in advance for your time and input!

Additionally, Kaitlyn Willoughby, our University City representative holds weekly office hours on Fridays from 10-11am at the following zoom link: <https://bit.ly/kwilloughby>

DISTRICT 1 FEEDBACK SURVEY

Open Until April 16, 2021

Available at
<https://bit.ly/D1March21Feedback>

San Diego Public Library News and Events from University Community Branch Library Manager Melissa Martin. To find out the most current information about these programs and other events at the San Diego Public Library, follow us on Facebook or check our website: www.sandiego.gov/public-library.

We are so glad to finally see our neighbors face-to-face at the 12 libraries that have opened for limited in-person services. If you want to try it out, the nearest libraries are the La Jolla/Riford Library, Carmel Valley Library and Mira Mesa Library.

At the University Community Library, 4155 Governor Drive, we continue to provide contactless pickup service, but look forward to the day when we can open for basic services. In the meantime, check out the programs highlighted below.



Are you ready for The Library Shop's Curbside Caravan Spring '21 Tour and Friends of the Library Mini-Book Sale? We were sad that we missed everyone in December when our visit was postponed due to world circumstances. But we're back, and we'll be visiting the University Community Library with our famous Curbside Caravan! Convenient, safe, and socially distanced - in your fanciest masks - spend a little time shopping for high-quality goods with a literary, book or library theme curbside at your neighborhood Library! While you are there, check out the Friends of the Library mini-book sale - the first one since 2019! - and get gently used books at a great price. All proceeds support the San Diego Public Library. At University Community Library entrance facing Governor Dr., Friday, April 16, from 12:00pm - 5:00pm.

Complete the Library survey now through April 17 - help decide the future of your library! The San Diego Public Library wants to know what you want your library to look like. We are working with the San Diego Public Library Foundation to complete a Library Master Plan and are seeking broad public participation in a Community Survey that asks:

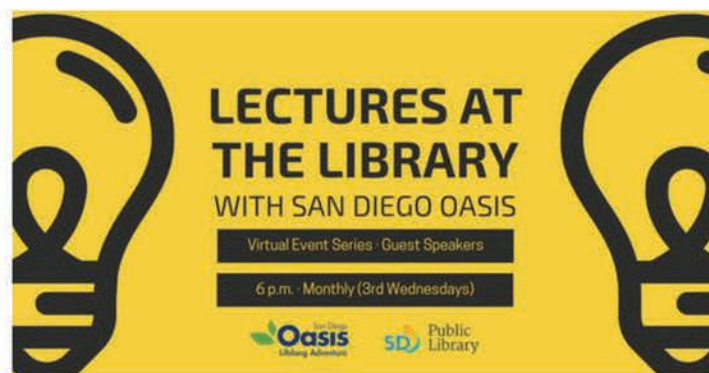
- What you need from the Library,
- How can the Library serve the community,
- What services, technologies, and programs would help you and your community.

Please visit the survey webpage and complete the survey online at supportmylibrary.org/master-plan/. The survey is open until April 17 and is available in Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Tagalog, and Vietnamese, in addition to English. If you have questions, would like a print survey or would like to get more information, contact the Library Foundation at office@supportmylibrary.org or call 619.236.5849.



Spring into STEAM: During the month of April, sign your children up for up to four virtual STEAM workshops focused on different places, cultures and modes of travel. In these engaging workshops, kids will visit Egypt, learn about the rainforest, create an LED-light up world map and design a vehicle that will travel on

land, over water and through the air. Each class is held twice (Saturdays/Tuesdays); upon registration, supply kits may be picked up at a nearby branch before the day of class. By completing two workshops, participants also earn a special prize. In partnership with the San Diego Air & Space Museum, Arts for Learning San Diego, ToshWerks, San Diego Parks and Recreation, and the San Diego Public Library Foundation. To register, visit sandiego.gov/public-library/spring-into-steam.



Lectures at the Library: 3rd Wednesday of the month: Lectures at the Library is a series of FREE classes with San Diego Oasis offered via Zoom. These lectures provide an opportunity for learning and engagement on a variety of topics. Registrants must sign up for a free MyOasis account at <https://san-diego.oasisnet.org/> to attend these virtual lectures. For more details about these programs and a registration link, visit the Library's online calendar: Contact Melissa at the UC Library for more information or if help is needed with registration.

- April 21, 6:00pm: The Art of Manet and Morisot, presented by Julia Fister, Studio ACE Director
- April 22, 2:30pm: Nutritional Solutions for Fatigue, Anxiety and Depression, presented by Angela Vitucci, Integrative Functional Medicine Nutritionist, R.D.N.

Thanks and hope to see you all at the library to pick up your books and crafts!

Melissa and the UC Staff

For more virtual library programs: SDPL Virtual Hub on Facebook (group) **To request books, DVDS, etc. through the San Diego Public Library online catalog:** sandiego.gov/public-library/

What can the Library do for you?

Tell us what you'd like to see from your local Library by taking the community survey. The future of the Library is in your hands

supportmylibrary.org/master-plan
Survey open through April 17



Friends of UC Branch Library Update

by Cheryl Ward and Helen Lebowitz

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the SD Public Library was held via Zoom on Sat. March 13, 2021. UC Friends Secretary, Cheryl Ward attended along with representatives from approximately 30 other chapters. Among issues discussed were City budget negotiations as they pertain to cuts to library staff and hours, and a focus on improving equity, diversity and access to all citizens.

A slate of officers for election to positions of the Corporate Board and Directors was presented and voted on. One of the newly elected Directors is Deanna Ratnikova of University City, and UCCA Board Member, who was elected for a two-year term.

Library Director Misty Jones presented a slide show on how the library is "Shifting Services to Meet Needs". During the Covid-19 library closure many virtual activities were initiated. A collaboration with UCSD Extension purchased and distributed computers through "Computers2Kids" and "San Diego Access 4 All" worked to create free WIFI and internet access at outdoor computer labs.

Two other speakers were SDPL Foundation CEO Patrick Stewart and Central Library Shop Manager, Scott Ehrig-Burgess.

Go to supportmylibrary.org/master-plan to complete the community survey about the Library Master Plan and within that website go to the Advocate tab, librariestransforms.org to request a package of postcards to send to City Council members.

Please be sure to check the UC branch Face Book (@Friends of SDPL University Community Branch) page for our local activities. To get a membership, go by the library, call the number, and someone will bring a form out to you.

Become a Lifelong Learner

**The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
at UC San Diego is Online**

Open House Open to All

**A VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021
10:00 AM**

Discover the joys of continued learning at the highly acclaimed Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UC San Diego at an online virtual Open House on Saturday, April 3, 2021, at 10:00am. This membership program for adults over 50, now completely online via Zoom, offers twice-daily lectures, seminars, and discussions of current events led by the renowned UCSD university faculty and scholars from across the country.

Subjects include Medicine, Science, International Relations, Law and Society, History, Art and Humanities, Literature, and Social Sciences. There are no prerequisites, exams or credit – simply the joy of learning. The Spring quarter starts on April 5 and runs for 10 weeks, featuring a full, exciting, and diverse curriculum.

RSVP at: <https://extension.ucsd.edu/olli/membership/open-house> and to get the Zoom link.

For more info, contact Amy Paterson at 858.534.7030, apatterson@ucsd.edu, or go to <https://extension.ucsd.edu/olli>.



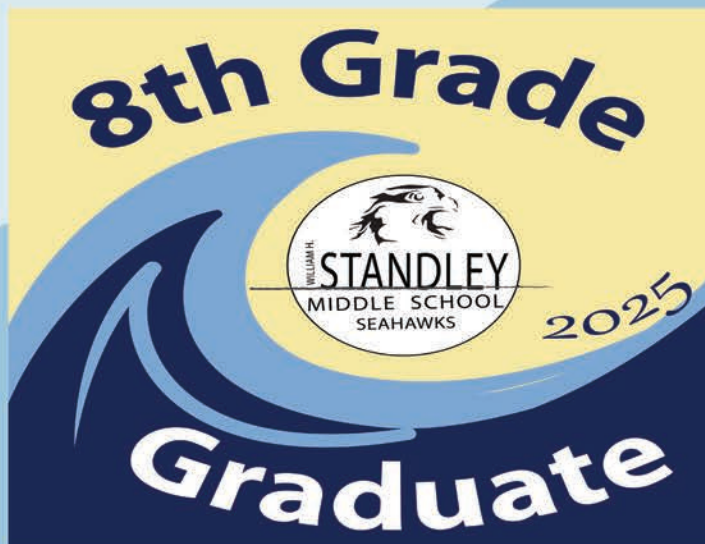
Honoring Our Graduates

In-school instruction is coming back and before you know it, it's time for graduation ceremonies. To help honor our graduating seniors, UC local Wendy Lee and her WikiTiki company is collaborating with both UCHS and Standley Middle School in support of their graduates with a Graduation Lawn Sign Fundraiser.

The proceeds of the UCHS Lawn Sign Fundraiser will benefit Senior Grad Night, and those of Standley Middle School will support their PTSA.

Lawn signs start at \$15 with or without personalization, and \$18 for customization. To place an order, contact wendy@wikitiki.com. (More samples are available than are shown on this page, please contact Wendy for selections.)

What better way to show how proud you are of your graduate by displaying one or two of these signs on your lawn. If you don't have a current graduate, support the graduating seniors and promoting middle school students with a general congrats sign. #UCProud



MUSICAL SHORTS



Save the Date for an Evening of Music

by Michelle Rumley

Are you a supporter of music in our UC schools? Do you love a good talent show? Then save the date for the 7th Annual Sights and Sounds Showcase hosted by the University City High School Music Boosters. This wonderful community event has gone virtual for 2021 to give our local youth the opportunity to show their talent while raising money to support the high school music program. Enjoy an evening of music performed by our talented students and staff.

Join us on Saturday, April 24, at 7:00pm for a virtual concert. More information is available at www.uchsmusic.com. If you are a local business or community member that would like to support the UCHS Music Boosters and this event with an item for our silent auction or a sponsorship, please contact Michelle Rumley at uchsshowcase@gmail.com. We hope you enjoy the show!



Front Porch Pandemic Band Continues Weekly

Band members Greg Pardue, Jack Hoffman, Roy Jenkins, Phil Marcus, and Albert Rubidoux (plus occasional guests or subs), aka the Front Porch Pandemic Band will continue their jam sessions every Thursday starting at 4:00 to 6:00pm (subject to weather). Perfect for a jazzy happy hour. Find them at the 5600 block of Bloch Street.

Seating is on the sidewalks, some driveways and edge of the street or in your parked car. Bring your own chair or just stand or walk around. Feel free to dance. Others bring their bike and go for a ride or walk their dog around the neighborhood. It's pandemic jazz and we're all improvising here. This event is very safe. It's outside, social distancing between groups is observed and masks are widely used.

Driveway Concert

Greg Zinser will host his next Concert in the Driveway on Saturday, April 17, starting at 2:00pm. His driveway is located at the corner of Hurd Ct. and Willard St. Zinser and his musical guests will perform a combination of familiar favorites and songs you may not have heard in a long time. Bring a lawn chair, or listen from your car.



Pets are Wonderful

by Mark Powell

April is officially Pets Are Wonderful Month, a time to honor the animals that bring love and happiness to our lives. There's no question that our pets give us love and companionship daily, but they also benefit our physical and mental health too.

Research has shown that pets can improve our cardiovascular health, reduce stress, decrease loneliness and depression, and facilitate social interactions among people who have pets. That's why pets are so frequently used in nursing homes, for people with disabilities and children with autism.

Here are five benefits of having a pet: 1) Good for the heart; In one study, people who never owned a cat were 40 percent more likely to die of a heart attack than those who did. 2) Natural mood enhancers; Pets are natural mood enhancers; just a few minutes of watching your cat or dog play will instantly reduce your anxiety and stress levels. 3) Better physical fitness; While this one may be a given, people who have pets tend to be more physically active and less obese than those who don't. 4) Social interaction; Having an active social life is key to staying healthy. And pet owners have a tendency to interact with other pet owners. 5) Sense of security; Pets also provide us with a sense of security. Dogs in particular can alert us of potential hazards and intruders.

And always remember to clean up after your dog. Picking up after your dog is not only a common courtesy, it is your duty as a pet owner. If you believe that dog poop will break down or just wash away, you're wrong. Dog waste can take up to 12 months to fully break down. Plus, when rainwater washes over dog poop, it flows into the drainage systems. The parasites and bacteria in dog waste can spread disease to other dogs. By not picking up after your dog, you're putting other people's pets at risk for exposure to harmful bacteria. Children who play outside and gardeners are at the most risk for contamination.

Dog urine is also a big problem, because dog urine will damage and kill grass. This happens because dog urine is rich in nitrogen. Many residents in University City take pride in their front lawns. While the backyard is used to enjoy and use, the front yard is the shining pedestal of the house. So do your best to keep your dogs from urinating or pooping on your neighbor's lawn especially if you see a NO DOG POOPING sign in their yard.

Pictured above are our Editor's dogs Scarlet and Bruce going on a walk.



Photo of completed park clean-up, courtesy Kathy Neiss

Recreationally Speaking

by Diane Ahern, UCCA's representative to Standley Park

Both the Community Recreation Group (CRG) and the Parks Council (UCPC) have been conducting monthly public meetings via Zoom. All are invited to participate. See the calendar listing on page 3 for meeting information. Recent news includes:

- Parks & Recreation staff are conducting brush and trash spring cleanups at area parks including University Village and University Gardens. They are concentrating on the areas adjacent to canyon rims.
- The UC Garden Club has decided to dissolve and had donated its residual funds to the University City Parks Council (UCPC) to be used to purchase trees for Standley Park when the construction has been completed.
- Speaking of construction, the Imagine UC 2020 school district project to build a joint-use pool, pavilion, and walking path on the Standley Middle School side of Standley Park is on schedule. During April, we'll see the vertical structures of the pavilion and pool buildings begin to take shape.
- The Parks Council (UCPC) has received a generous grant from the County Board of Supervisors to paint the brick cement wall that surrounds the garbage dumpster at Standley Park. The design reveal will take place at the April 22 CRG meeting at 7:00pm.
- Swanson Pool remains closed to the public ... but, pool personnel have received clearance to hold a Lifeguard Class during Spring Break. Those who are interested should call the pool office at 858.552.1653.
- All three Recreation Centers (Doyle, Nobel, and Standley) recently held a Spring Drive-through event and distributed goodie bags to area children. The afternoon event was rainy but staff were able to distribute over two hundred bags.
- Area Recreation Centers remain closed to the public. While activity permits for youth and adult outdoor sports are currently available through area Recreation Centers, ground use permits for large events such as the UC Celebration and the Summer Concerts are not available at this time. In addition to the restrictions we're all experiencing due to COVID-19, the ongoing construction on the joint-use fields adjacent to Standley Park presents a challenge to those of us who wish to plan for large events at our community parks.
- Summer event updates and more will be under consideration at the April 22, 7:00pm, Standley Park Community Recreation Group meeting and all are invited to attend.

So You Think You Know UC

Part 3

take this informal quiz for UC nerds

1. Which of these well-known and respected local realtors sponsored the "Snow Day" at the last two Standley Park 4th of July Celebrations?
 - A. Caryl Lees
 - B. Nancy Beck
 - C. Valerie Upham
2. Which of these well-known, respected and long-time residents NOW serves as UC Little League's president?
 - A. Don Hotz
 - B. Dusty Reisch
 - C. Ryan Preston
3. Who were the creators of the University City song, "More than just a Neighborhood"?
 - A. Rodgers and Hammerstein
 - B. Ventimiglia and Zinser
 - C. Fred Rogers
4. Which of these was NOT a previous name of Sprouts Market?
 - A. Statler Brothers
 - B. Bradshaws
 - C. Boneys
5. Who was the first UCCA president? (elected in 1978)
 - A. Sandy Lippe
 - B. Bob Vilven
 - C. Harry Mathis
6. Who is the president and CEO of CA. Coast Credit Union? (hint: he grew up in UC and played Little League)
 - A. George Otero
 - B. Todd Lane
 - C. Mack Langston
7. Who is the recently elected UCPG Board member representing South University City residents?
 - A. Katie Witherspoon
 - B. Janay Kruger
 - C. Georgia Kayser
8. What do the initials A.D.U. stand for in what are known as "granny flats"?
 - A. Accessory Dwelling Units
 - B. Auxiliary Dwelling Units
 - C. Adjacent Dwelling Units
9. What do the initials "FORC" stand for? (hint: a local U.C. organization)
 - A. Fire Oversight Rescue Consortium
 - B. Friends of Rose Canyon
 - C. Fellows of Regional Conservation
10. What is the name of the high rise Westfield UTC apartments at Nobel/Lombard ?
 - A. The Palladium
 - B. The Vi
 - C. The Palisades

*Bonus question...What is the name of the plants/tree company at the far east end of Governor Drive at 805?

UC Quiz prepared by UCCA President Barry Bernstein. Answers on page 3, or go to universitycitynews.org.

PLAY BALL!



University City Little League Starts to Play Ball

by Members of UCLL Board

It was a sunny winter morning this past February 13 when over 50 kids from around UC ascended on McElroy field for UC Little League player assessments. As they walked on the field parents, coaches, and kids, all looked a little uncertain with that giddy feeling you get when you've weathered the storm and things are about to get really fun again. It meant spring was around the corner, the smell of fresh cut grass, the crack of the bat, and baseball was back!

Unlike any other season in recent memory, this spring looks to be a season of hope and sheer joy for these little leaguers who've been waiting over a year for the chance rekindle old friendships and make new ones as they take the field and renew their pursuit of one of America's oldest and greatest pastimes. Little League is back and games are starting April 10th! The long anticipated outdoor safe play will be on its way and our little league community couldn't be happier.

San Diego County has been approved for outdoor sporting events and we are gearing up to play games soon. UCLL players and coaches have been safely practicing and are looking forward to playing one of their favorite pastimes once again. LET'S PLAY BALL!

For info go to: UCLL.org



Girls Softball is Back

By Perry Peters, President –
UC Del Sol Girls Fastpitch Softball

UC Del Sol Girls' Softball league began the 2021 Spring Ball season on Saturday March 20th at Standley Field with a full schedule of games. UC Del Sol has 7 teams competing this Spring in the 6U through 12U softball divisions against teams in local leagues. It's been a year since we've been allowed to play games and the excitement couldn't have been any better. Finally, girls' softball is back! Info at: UCDelSol.com





Looking at UC Cars, Drinking Some Coffee

The UC Cars and Coffee Meet-Ups had a great showing at their March 27 gathering. The event regularly meets the fourth Saturday of the month at the Sprouts Marketplace on Governor Drive, from 8:00-10:00am. Anyone is welcome to bring their wheels to showcase, or come by to check out the automobiles. Follow "UC Cars and Coffee" on Facebook. Photos courtesy Ryan Ahearn and David Wright. The next UC Cars & Coffee will be on April 24.



Looks from the Drive Through Spring Events at Standley and Doyle Parks





Public Comment Sought for the Wildfire Protection Plan

by Diane Ahern

The Fire Safe Council is seeking Public Comment on its first draft University City area Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The CWPP is a blueprint for fire prevention and preparedness at the neighborhood level. The CWPP documents a community's efforts to protect itself against both structure and wildfire, and empowers residents and community members to move in a cohesive, common direction. The draft University City CWPP was developed by the University City Fire Safe Council in collaboration with community members and the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and federal, state and county emergency management agencies.

Public comments will be reviewed and considered by the Fire Safe Council when developing its final draft CWPP. The final draft will be reviewed and approved by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department as well as the County and State Fire Safe Councils. A completed and approved CWPP will enable the University City Fire Safe Council to become eligible for grant funding for fire prevention and preparation activities. The Public Comment period for the draft CWPP is open now through April 30, 2021. To submit a Public Comment, complete the form available on UCCA's website at universitycitynews.org/fire-safe-council-public-comment/



Gardening and Landscaping to Protect Your Home

From the Burn Institute at burninstitute.org: Ready to plant your garden or start outdoor landscaping this spring? Check out the information and tips on how to prepare and landscape to better protect your home in the Burn Institute's *Living with Wildfire: A Guide for the Homeowner*.

- The area nearest your home should contain low-growing plants. Ideally there should be no tall-growing plants close to your home.
- Walk the perimeter of your home and prune plants that are under windows or eaves.
- Maintain the correct irrigation schedule year-round for the good health of your plants.
- Remove a plant immediately if it dies. A dead plant is fuel.
- Remove dead foliage and twigs from trees and shrubs.
- Contact the Fire Safe Council, the SD Fire Department webpage, or a local nursery for recommendations on fire-resistive planting options in your area.

Photos and more tips are available from the San Diego County Water Authority at waternewsnetwork.com/design-a-native-garden.



The Wildfire Environment

From the Burn Institute: Researchers are studying the fire environment to better understand the complex inter-relationships between humans and nature. Fire experts have long-recognized three basic components: weather, fuel and terrain. Together, these three items affect the likelihood of fire starting, how fast it moves, and its power and difficulty to control. Today, fire experts also recognize the influence of the human environment.

Weather: Dry, hot and windy weather increases the likelihood of a major wildfire. These conditions make ignition easier, help fuels burn more rapidly, and increase fire intensity. High windspeeds, in particular, can transform a small, easily controlled fire into a catastrophic event.

Fuel: In a wildfire, fuels are usually living vegetation (trees, shrubs, brush, grass) and dead plant materials (dead trees, dried grass, fallen branches, etc.) Homes, when in the path of wildfire, can become fuel. The quantity, size, moisture content, arrangement and other fuel characteristics influence the ease of ignition, rate of fire spread, length of flames and other fire behavior.

Terrain: Of all types of topographic features, steepness of slope is among the most influential on fire behavior. The steeper the slope, the faster a fire will spread.

Human Environment: As people move into wildfire country, the human-built environment becomes important in predicting loss of life and property. Examples of increased risk to people living with the threat of wildfire include combustible construction and roofs, narrow roads with limited access, lack of fire-safe landscaping, and inadequate water supply. For more information, visit burninstitute.org/fire-prevention-resources/

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Individual and/or Business members' names will be listed in the newsletter. Please indicate if you do NOT want your name to be listed.

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Payment is also accepted through PayPal on our website www.universitycitynews.org.

Your UCCA membership dues (and additional donation) make a big difference in our community. These funds help support many worthwhile organizations (i.e. public schools' fundraising, Standley Park, EdUCate!, Neighborhood Watch, ImproveUC/UCCF, Buy Local).

Plus special projects and activities such as median beautification, painted utility boxes, street banners, 4th of July Celebration, Summer Concerts, Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting, and our monthly newsletter delivered to your home and/or business.

*(*UCCA membership dues are not tax deductible.)*

*This membership is valid for the 2021 calendar year. Thank you for joining UCCA. If you have any questions, please contact our Membership Chairperson Hallie Burch at UCCAmembership@gmail.com.

Community Plan Update Meeting

March 17, 2021

by Katie Rodolico

Agenda and supporting documents for this meeting, and previous meetings can be found at: www.planuniversity.org/

The meeting was held as a webinar.

Agenda Items:

Katie Witherspoon reviewed the progress to date and introduced Diego Velasco of CityThinkers and Rick Barret of MIG Inc to lead the discussion on Urban Planning.

Diego Velasco provided ideas for the five focus areas:

Town Centre Drive at Town Centre Court he proposed a design that provides welcome and interchange as people arrive at work. The attendees discussed that this area was far from transit and cars would still be required; promoted moving the buildings closer to the street, away from the canyon edge, and providing access to trails around the canyons and corporate campuses.

In the La Jolla Village area he proposed a main street that wound through the La Village Square and crossed over Nobel to the Whole Foods shopping center. He proposed redoing Nobel with buildings that housed business and residential at the edge of the malls along Nobel. He proposed redoing Nobel with wide sidewalks and bike lanes. The attendees discussed the coastal height limit restrictions of thirty feet and how that impacted his proposals.

In the UTC/Costa Verde/Executive drive areas he proposed some new/replacement residential along the southeast portion of the mall. He proposed converting the access road that runs from near the old Sears to behind Red Robin to a path for the community to access the mall, or for people to traverse the area. He proposed a Ramblas (Barcelona) type revision of Executive drive from Town Centre on the east to Regents on the west. Attendees pointed out that some of the new housing would replace some of the older housing that provides most of the very limited moderate priced rentals in the area.

On Governor Drive he proposed that the Vons shopping center could be redone as mixed use commercial and residential. Attendees pointed out that the four gas stations at the intersection should be addressed as well.

The next University City Community Plan Update meeting will be on April 20, 2021 at 5:30pm.

52 WAYS TO ♥ H₂O

Reduce Ocean Pollution with Project Clean Water

Have you heard? The City and Think Blue San Diego have recently launched *Project Clean Water*, which brings together organizations, non-profits, individuals, and the County of San Diego. They seek to raise awareness around stormwater pollution to share the message that together, we can protect our waterways and keep our communities healthy.

Many people may not be aware that rain and storm water entering our storm drains is not treated, which means pollutants from runoff, including trash, chemicals, pet waste and more can contaminate our rivers, lagoons and the ocean. The good news is that each of us can take steps to reduce this potential damage.

Your everyday actions have the power to create change for the better. Join with the City and neighbors across San Diego and University City in the movement for clean water. Get more information and take the "52 Ways to Love Your Water" pledge today at projectcleanwater.org



How-To Guide to Reduce Waterway and Ocean Pollution

Some of us may contribute to ocean pollution and not even realize it. Individual actions can lead to clean water and healthier communities. Here are some simple actions we can take today.

Prevent Runoff: Take actions that decrease water runoff and over-irrigation to limit the amount of untreated stormwater entering our waterways.

- Fix broken sprinkler heads
- Reduce watering time
- Take your car to a car wash that recycles its water

Reduce Pollutants: Take actions that reduce the source of pollutants to decrease trash and pet waste that enter our waterways.

- Pick up trash, litter, and pet waste and place in a trash bin
- Use less fertilizers and pesticides
- Keep vehicles in working order and repair leaking vehicles

Capture Water: Find ways to capture water to reduce pollutants' potential to be carried into storm drains and harming our ocean and waterways.

- Use rain barrels to capture and reuse runoff
- Install permeable pavement
- Redirect gutters and downspouts to a permeable landscape

Native Plant Restoration by Friends of Rose Canyon and City of San Diego Tri-Canyons Park Rangers

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RE DRE #01229297

CENTURY 21
FINE HOMES
& ESTATES.

Award

University City Specialist!

This is not intended to solicit listed property. If your property is currently listed for sale with a broker, please disregard.



Prime Rib WED. & SAT. - Hot and ready to serve
12 oz. serving with Twice baked Potato, sautéed vegetables, au jus, creamy horse radish (ready hot by 4:30pm) **\$29**

Cold REHEATABLE Meals

After removing the lid, Warm up in container at 225° for 30 to 60 min. or Microwave 3 min.

Local Fresh Halibut (\$24) or Rock Snapper Filets (\$16)

Sauteed Tomato, Caper & Basil Relish, Mixed Wild Rice, Glazed Carrots and Blue Lake Green Beans

Italian-style Meat Lasagna served with garlic bread \$21 (serves 2-3)

Pan Seared Jumbo Scallops Rissotto (\$26)

Beef Wellington (\$35)

7oz. Filet, with Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans & Carrots

Individual Meals

	Each	Family Style (4)
Boneless Pork Loin Chop Brined, topped with apple chutney	\$16	\$54
Meatloaf (serves 1-2) Whipped red bliss potatoes, sautéed vegetables	\$15	\$50
Coq au Vin (Leg and Breast)(serves 1-2) Carrots, onions, mushrooms, red wine sauce, garnished with mashed potatoes	\$24	\$80
Salmon Dijonnaise Fresh salmon filet baked with mustard, citrus, and tarragon topping. Mixed wild rice pilaf with glazed carrots and green beans	\$19	\$64
Chicken Piccata or Marsala Boneless chicken breast sautéed with a lemon caper sauce or mushroom sauce. Mixed wild rice pilaf and sautéed green beans.	\$15	\$50
Braised Boneless Short Ribs Bourguignonne-Style in a red wine sauce with pearl onions, mushrooms and glazed carrots. Whipped red bliss potatoes and sautéed green beans.	\$23	\$75
Duck Confit Slow-braised, duck leg in a light currant demi-glace, wild rice pilaf and sautéed glazed carrots and green beans. (Extra leg \$7)	\$17	\$58
Ratatouille A light stew of eggplant, zucchini, onion, garlic, tomato, and bell peppers over steamed quinoa	\$12	\$40
Kids Meal Chicken tenders from scratch! Mac-n-Cheese, glazed carrots and Ranch dressing	\$8	N/A

Daily Drop-off 5pm Mon-Sat; Noon Sundays
OMC Church Parking Lot - 3131 Governor

Place your order by 3pm 3 ways:

<https://shop.thefrenchgourmet.com>
(858) 488-1725 x3 by 3pm
catering@thefrenchgourmet.com



MAKE IT A DELICIOUS CELEBRATION

THE FRENCH GOURMET

Assorted Soups - Made from scratch, such as:

Cream of Broccoli, Cream of Watercress, Red Bell Pepper Pear, Potato Leek, French Onion, Butternut Squash, Tomato Basil, Chicken Noodle, Clam Chowder (\$10).

Inquire for the day's offerings.

1qt

\$8 (serves 3-4)

House-made Quiche: Lorraine, Spinach, Mushroom and Chili Verde

Pie pan size (serves 4-6)

\$24

Large (serves 8-10)

\$36

Individual serving

\$6.50

Chicken Pot Pie

\$7

Tender chicken, peas, carrots, mushrooms, savory sauce, golden crust

Whipped Red Bliss Potatoes with butter & cream

\$7/lb

Mixed Wild Rice Pilaf with garlic herb butter

\$11/lb

Steamed Blue Lake Green Beans with garlic herb butter

\$8/lb

Glazed Carrots & Blue Lake Green Beans with garlic herb butter

\$8/lb

Mac-n-Cheese Elbow pasta with rich cheddar cheese sauce

\$6/lb

Savory Baked In Croissants:

Turkey & Cheese, Ham & Cheese, Spinach & Cheese

\$5.50

Assorted Baguette Sandwiches:

Ham & Swiss: Cheese, Turkey & Cheese, Vegetarian, Tuna Salad, Chicken Curry Salad (add avocado \$1)

\$7 ea

Fresh Fruit

\$6/pint

Caesar Salad Romain lettuce, Parmesan cheese, garlic croutons, creamy Caesar dressing

(serves 1-2) Small \$6 Large (serves 4-6) \$18

Mixed Green Salad mushrooms, (serves 1-2) Small \$6 Large (serves 4-6) \$18

tomatoes, cucumber & carrot, vinaigrette on side

\$12/lb

Tuna Salad

\$12/lb

Chicken Curry Salad

\$12/lb

Rainbow Primavera Pasta Salad

\$8.50/lb

Dill Potato Salad

\$8.50/lb

Roasted Vegetable Farro Salad

\$9.50/lb

Baguette

\$2.75 ea

French Breakfast Rolls

(Croissant, pain au chocolat, Almond croissant, Palmier)

from \$3 ea

Individual dessert: Fruit tarts, Napoleon, cake slice from \$5.50

Celebration Cakes - Birthdays, etc.

Call to Inquire

Wine of the day

from \$10-\$15 & up

960 Turquoise Street, San Diego, CA 92109

Prices and Menu subject to change

email catering@thefrenchgourmet.com for possible update